

From: Paavo Parkkinen
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/27/02 12:10pm
Subject: The Microsoft settlement

I don't know if non-US citizens are allowed to comment, but I'll do it anyway since I feel that the decision affects me also.

I have never felt the Microsoft monopoly in my life. I learnt to use a computer on a MSDOS. At the time, though, there were other DOS's and I never felt that MSDOS - even though it was the most popular - had a monopoly in the market. At the time Windows 3.1 came out I was already starting to learn other operating systems. And while "the Microsoft empire" grew, I started to grow away from it. Nowadays I use a Microsoft OS only very rarely. I don't have one installed on my home computer and at my school we have ample opportunity to use other operating systems. Needless to say, I have never felt boxed in by Microsoft or their products.

But now, with the Internet, I may very well one day find myself being boxed out. I do have internet connection at home, and use one at school. I use it for school work and for recreation. Especially for my school assignments, the Internet is invaluable. Recently I have been hearing about Microsofts attempts at changing their Internet protocols to be closed to users of other operating systems. I fear that this will close me (and countless others) from a large portion of the Internet. So I wish the settlement between Microsoft and the DoJ to force Microsoft to open their network protocols so the Internet can remain the open and free network of information I have grown accustomed to it being.

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paavo.

The human mind ordinarily operates at only ten percent of its capacity - the rest is overhead for the operating system.

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